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Sri V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR : Sir, when the parties approached the societies, they were given to understand that Government alone should come to the rescue and amend the rules. Therefore, will the Government consider the desirability of giving specific directions to the societies? May I also know, Sir, the maximum of loan that is available to the labourers?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : These are all details which have got to be worked out by the societies particularly in relation to the credit-worthiness of the person. Therefore, we do not propose to make any hard and fast rule as to the amount which should be given under the scheme. So far as the rules are concerned, this has been accepted. In these thirteen places where this new scheme of guarantee is introduced, that is, in the various Community Development Blocks where full finance scheme is in force, the rules are being amended.

Sri K. B. S. MANI : தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வீடு கட்டி கொடுப் பதைப்பற்றி தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவைப் பொறுத்த மட்டில் . . . .

DEPUTY SPEAKER : How is this question relevant? I disallow this question.

Abolition of Moniam tax in Kanyakumari district

* 476 *Q.*—Sri T. S. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state when the Government propose to bring in legislation to abolish the Moniam tax in the Kanyanumari district?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Sri T. S. RAMASWAMY : Sir, this matter has been hanging fire for the last ten years—even before the date of the States Reorganisation. Now for the last four years this Government are considering the matter. May I know what exactly is the reason for the delay? It is such a simple matter. May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that every year of delay means additional tax burdeen to thousand of poor ryots in the Kanyakumari district?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAEVLU : If this matter has been under consideration for ten years, a good part of it was with the other Government. Now the difficulty is this. We have to find out the nature of the tenures. Therefore we have addressed the Collector to enquire and report. The Collector sent a report. Then the Board examined it. They have sent up some proposals. Now we have referred it back to the Kerala Government and also to Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple authorities saying, " These are the lines on which we are going to amend; what is your reaction ". We are awaiting the report. As soon as we receive it, we will take action.

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SRI T. S. RAMASWAMY : Sir, are the Government aware of the fact that a draft Bill was already there in the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin State and also in the present Kerala State? May I know whether, if a private Bill is brought forward in this Assembly, the Government will be prepared to support it?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The hon. Member knows all this because he was there. He came from there. But we can get information only through correspondence. We have already addressed them, an dtheir reply awaited.

SRI R. SRINIVASA IYER : Sir, are the Government aware that land revenue in the Kanyakumari district was fixed about 80 or 90 years ago? People are not able to say when it was fixed—they do not remember. May I know whether there was any survey at all, and whether a pattadar could understand the extent of land or assessment? May I also know whether the Government propose to have a survey of the lands in that district and review the revenue settlement of that district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : What the hon. Member has raised is a bigger issue. What we are concerned with are the Sripandaravagai lands and the Thiruppuvaram lands of Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple at Trivandrum. Only with these lands we are concerned. If the hon. Member gives notice of a separate question in respect of other lands, it will be examined.

Textile Institute, Madras

* 477 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Textile Institute, Madras, was started;

(*b*) the purpose it served; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to close it down and if so, why?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) The Government Textile Institute, Madras, was started in July 1922.

(*b*) The objects and functions of the Institute may be briefly classified under the following heads :—

(i) To provide practical and theoretical training for weavers engaged in Handloom Weaving and for teachers of weaving employed in weaving schools. Also for training Supervisors to go as Spinning and Weaving Masters and Dyeing and Printing Masters for Factories and Textile Mills.

(ii) To produce and supply machine-made warps and to demonstrate to handloom weavers the economy of such warps.

(iii) to demonstrate the weaving of various fabrics with the aid of improved looms and appliances;